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A LETTER TO GOD

ear Almighty God:-

"unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid, leanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love Thee, and worthily magnify Thy holy ame, through Jesus Christ our Lord." And dear od, though we, Thy servants, are unworthy to ddress Thee, turn the minds and sensitize the pirits of Thy children throughout the earth, so hat with childlike wonder we may humbly appreiate the discoveries of new and hitherto unknown ower in nature, and the practical varied applications of this power to agriculture, medicine, ight, and to higher standards of living for all ankind. We thank Thee for the growing development of a brotherhood in the world, composed of very tongue, race and color. Yet, oh Lord, we onfess that we are prone to magnify our exploits and fail to humbly acknowledge Thee alone as the source of both power and the faculties of man, whereby he discovers Thy wonders. Move us to apply Thy hidden power to the ends of life rather than to widespread destruction and annihilation. Stay, we implore Thee, the minds and hearts of those who would destroy life. Bless, we fervently pray Thee, the minds and hands of those who would contribute to a higher, creative life of peaceful living for all mankind. Oh God, may Thy Holy Spirit hover over the whole human race so as to turn the spirit of man toward love, dissolving our man-made barriers which separate class from class, race from race, nation from nation, East from West, or North from South. Move us mightily toward a creative and enduring peace, that we may learn to perfectly love and obey Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Thy Servants Who Work
for the Peace of the World

LETTER TO THE CHURCH

To you, beloved Methodist Church, must be ccorded by any valid appraisal, vast moral ower, spiritual significance and world-wide chievement. This is not to make comparisons ith other faiths but to suggest the measure of esponsibility resting on Methodists. No one ould deny the world-wide influence of our hurch, established in so many nations, among o many races and peoples, with so large a membership, and so extensive a ministry with advanced prophetic social vision. The total influence of The Methodist Church for world peace s a complex multiplication of the total of its inisters, members, organized churches and organized work for world peace. With other Christian bodies, Methodists over the world have a special mission and ministry which belong unto him who was the Prince of Peace.

The coming of World Order Sunday, established by the General Conference for November lth in 1956, provides the possibility of a new idal wave of spiritual insight and practical ction toward the achievement of lasting peace. early 25,000 ministers will have the opportunity of leading their people in worship, and of preaching simultaneously across the United States, the message of a realistic peace for the world. Even statesmen are preaching that it is not enough for us to have peace in our time; that, we must win peace for all time. They say that the only way to win the peace in an atomic age is to prevent the next world war from ever occurring.

Methodists arising from the inspired work of John Wesley, can do mighty things for peace under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. We find ourselves in a strategic place among churches and nations to effectively impress Methodists with the true meaning of peace, the nature of the forces opposed to peace, and the steps which, if and when taken, lead to permanent peace. Never before have we had as much to encourage us in the conviction that a permanent peace can be forged in our time.

For the first time in many years there is no war in the world. Seventy-six nations are members of the United Nations. Three more nations soon will be admitted. Probably within

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five years all nations will be members of the United Nations.

Nevertheless, the Church must supply the spiritual objectives and release and guide moral forces which must forge a new cooperative world with adequate international machinery for accomplishing the purposes of peace. This is a complex world-wide process, but a challenging one. In the end, man can and will succeed in bringing to pass the objective of permanent world peace for which we believe the peoples of the world, East and West of barriers, truly yearn. No institution on earth is so essential to world peace as the Church. No exhortation to you who read this letter is necessary. We are together in a great spiritual fellowship and a vast enterprise which contains the hope of the world and perhaps the continuation of the human race. What more needs to be said?

We trust that you will make the largest possible use of the listed materials which are made available to the churches for their participation in this glorious movement of our time to save the world from the scourge of an atomic and hydrogen bomb disaster. Rather, they must be lifted to the higher level of international cooperation, embodying the international requirements for the maintenance of genuine world peace. In the name of the Prince of Peace.

RESOURCES TO HELP YOU

The following pamphlets can be ordered from the General Board of World Peace.

U. N. Week 1956 -- A folder full of suggestions for church observances. Single copy free.

Basic Facts About the United Nations -- A wealth of material in a 44 page booklet. 15¢

Your Opinion Counts -- An important Department of State publication. 10¢ each.

United Nations-Facts and Fallacies -- An effective answer to mistaken attacks on the U.N. Single copy free, 25¢ per 12, $1.00 per 100.

United Nations-What It Is, What It Does, How It Works -- 5¢ each.

X Several UN filmstrips may be borrowed from the General Board of World Peace for postage only.

BOARD MEETS IN NEW YORK

Dr. Andrew W. Cordier, Assistant Director to United Nations Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjold, spoke at the first meeting of the quadrennium of the Board of World Peace in a luncheon session held in a private dining room of the United Nations. In addition to interpreting the role of the United Nations in the making of peace, Dr. Cordier gave an authentic analysis of the situation in the Middle East, including the Suez Canal dispute. Dr. Cordier spoke with first-hand knowledge, having recentl visited Middle Eastern governments and territories.

Dr. O. Frederick Nolde, Executive Director of the Churches' Commission on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches and International Missionary Council, addressed the Board, interpreting the work of the CCIA in relation to the United Nations and to internation problems which are the concern of the churches. He described the cooperative relationships of the Board of World Peace and the CCIA.

Dr. Clark Eichelberger gave an excellent interpretation of the work of the United Nations and expressed his conviction that a religious foundation, such as our Board helps to give, is essential to such work as is carrie on by the United Nations and the American Association for the United Nations. He paid high tribute to the program of the Board of World Peace in relation to the United Nations, as did Dr. Cordier.

On September 26th, following the meeting of the Board, the General Secretary was fortunate enough to secure admission to the Securit Council meeting called for the purpose of adopting a provisional agenda in connection with the complaints of the United Kingdom and France on the unilateral violation of the Suez Canal Treaty of 1888 by Egypt. In addition, Egypt ha sent a complaint against the United Kingdom and France on the ground that their mobilization of troops and armaments in the Middle East violate the Charter of the United Nations. Article II, Item 4 of the Charter reads: "All Members shal refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state, or in any other manner inconsistent with the Purposes of the United Nations."

It is noteworthy that Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr. stated that the United States would support the inclusion in the agenda of the Egyptian complaint irrespective of its views or its vote on the item.

(By the way, is not "sabre rattling" or atomic bomb "rattling" an effort to settle a dispute by threat of force?)

Several good films and the following filmstrip may be ordered from the Methodist Publishing House which serves you.

We Seek Peace -- A 17 min. 35 mm. filmstrip with record which deals with the arms race, the UN, and world order. Sale: $10, rental: $2.50.